



## Early Journal Content on JSTOR, Free to Anyone in the World

This article is one of nearly 500,000 scholarly works digitized and made freely available to everyone in the world by JSTOR.

Known as the Early Journal Content, this set of works include research articles, news, letters, and other writings published in more than 200 of the oldest leading academic journals. The works date from the mid-seventeenth to the early twentieth centuries.

We encourage people to read and share the Early Journal Content openly and to tell others that this resource exists. People may post this content online or redistribute in any way for non-commercial purposes.

Read more about Early Journal Content at <http://about.jstor.org/participate-jstor/individuals/early-journal-content>.

JSTOR is a digital library of academic journals, books, and primary source objects. JSTOR helps people discover, use, and build upon a wide range of content through a powerful research and teaching platform, and preserves this content for future generations. JSTOR is part of ITHAKA, a not-for-profit organization that also includes Ithaka S+R and Portico. For more information about JSTOR, please contact [support@jstor.org](mailto:support@jstor.org).

*The storm in Porto Rico.*SAN JUAN, PORTO RICO, *August 17, 1899.*

SIR: I have the honor to report that, as reports come in from the various parts of this island, the recent hurricane has not caused so much damage to life and property as at first estimated. The total number of lives lost, principally by drowning, is a little over 600. Land communication with Ponce and other towns is still cut off, and wires are down.

This station had 1 small boarding boat destroyed, which, though securely anchored, was broken adrift by a stray barge drifting against it. The frame warehouse building at the quarantine station was completely wrecked, and the small house sheltering the steam chamber damaged. I inclose herewith official weather report.

Respectfully, yours,

A. H. GLENNAN,  
*Surgeon, U. S. M. H. S., In Command.*

[Inclosure.]

*U. S. Department of Agriculture—Porto Rico section, climate and crop service, Weather Bureau—Willis L. Moore, Chief United States Weather Bureau, Washington, D. C.*

As the details of the hurricane of August 8 are received, the more apparent becomes the appalling nature of the calamity. From every side reports are brought in of lives lost, houses destroyed, people injured, and in addition to this the utter destruction of those fruits and vegetables which form the staple food of a teeming population. Reports are as yet but meager, all telegraph wires being down and the roads impassable. The chapter of horrors is yet far from complete. The storm center apparently passed directly over the southern part of the island, and in these districts the damage was correspondingly severe. The extreme northeastern part suffered less, but the destruction south of Fajardo was immense. There is no doubt that the loss of life will reach into the thousands, and the value of property destroyed many millions. In Ponce, in addition to the destruction wrought by the wind, was added that produced by floods. The rains were torrential in their character, and the water in the streets was many feet deep, many unfortunates losing their lives from drowning. The observer of this Service at Juana Diaz reports a rainfall of 11.20 inches between 6 a. m. of the 8th and 6 a. m. of the 9th. His lowest barometer was 28.11. At Guayama the lowest barometer observed was 27.75.

The following meteorological conditions prevailed at San Juan during the week ended August 12, 1899:

Mean temperature for the week, 80.0°. Highest temperature, 87.0° on the 7th. Lowest temperature, 71.1° on the 8th. Total rainfall, 6.43 inches.

## REPORTS FROM THE MEXICAN BORDER.

*El Paso, Tex., August 20, 1899.*—I have to report that during the week ended August 10 there arrived on the Mexican Central Railroad 2 passengers from Tampico and 1 from Vera Cruz, Mexico, neither of them having certificates or mark of disinfection on their baggage.

The tickets of the passengers from Tampico showed that they had been absent the prescribed time. The passenger from Vera Cruz left there on August 6. All their baggage was disinfected by immersion in 1-1000 bichloride solution.

Since the Mexican authorities have made it optional with passengers to have certificates or have their baggage disinfected or not at the different stations in the Republic of Mexico, I meet the incoming Mexican Central Railroad train 40 miles out every day, which gives me plenty of time to investigate thoroughly the sanitary status of every passenger, and where they come from.

Respectfully, yours,

E. ALEXANDER,  
*Sanitary Inspector, U. S. M. H. S.*

*Laredo, Tex., August 19, 1899.*—The inspection of persons passing the frontier by ferry or small boats is now in good working order. There were 162 persons passed on ferryboats yesterday, the 18th instant, and it requires a guard there all day. Eight persons who left the train this morning at Nuevo Laredo, Mexico, were not allowed entry by the guard who watches the ferryboats. They claimed to come from noninfected points, but had no evidence where they had been during the preceding ten days, and they came on the train from between Monterey and the City of Mexico. I, therefore, think it necessary that I keep a guard at the ferry as well as on the international foot bridge during the present quarantine season. It only requires a guard during daylight, as the Mexican authorities allow the ferryboats to run only during daylight.

*Laredo, Tex., August 22, 1899.*—I have the honor to submit the following report for week ended August 19, 1899: Inspected and allowed entry at the international foot bridge, 2,594; refused entry, 8. Inspected and allowed entry over the international ferryboats for August 18 and August 19, 294; refused entry, 9. Passengers inspected and allowed entry over Mexican National Railroad: From City of Mexico, 41; San Luis Potosi, 2; Monterey, 71; other points, 60; total entered for the week reported, 174.

August 15: Took a passenger from the train claiming to be from City of Mexico, but with no other evidence, and placed him in the detention camp. The person had very little money and gave references of having been working here, and from them I procured evidence of his not having been in an infected locality. I released him on 16th instant. Up to the present date, he is in perfect health, working at his trade. Two of the persons detained at the foot bridge were from Pueblo, and they telegraphed to the United States consular agent there for certificates which arrived in due time, but they were seven days in detention all together, as they would not telegraph for evidence upon their arrival.

On the 14th instant, 33 noninfection certificates were issued to persons entering Mexico. On the 15th instant, 73 certificates were issued. I instructed them to get inspected at Monterey, San Luis Potosi, and City of Mexico before returning. They are now returning daily, which will increase the weekly entries into the United States that much. On the 15th instant, 2 persons from Jalapa with noninfection certificates from the United States consul-general at City of Mexico, countersigned L. E. C., were detained by the State quarantine inspector. They left Jalapa on the 10th instant, had their baggage inspected at City of Mexico, and arrived here on the 15th with a clean bill of health from the above-named persons, but were detained until the 20th instant. \* \* \*

Respectfully, yours,

H. J. HAMILTON,  
Acting Assistant Surgeon, U. S. M. H. S.

#### *Smallpox on the Rio Grande.*

ON THE RIO GRANDE, August 15, 1899.

SIR: Since writing you, I have visited the following American and Mexican towns on the Rio Grande, viz: (a) American—Toslingo, Polvo, Presidio, Spencers Ranch, Depot, Piedral, Riodosa, Condalario, Copata, and Commanche Springs; (b) Mexican—Presidio del Norte, Malata, San Antonio, Barago, Santa Lina, and San Carlos. Besides these towns, there are numerous small ranches and settlements on both sides of the river. I found smallpox prevalent in every form and stage and the situation alarming.